



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Scott Smith** Chief Deputy

Law of the Month

April 2017

Now with the warmer weather approaching, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office and the local police departments often receive complaints about loud music coming from vehicles. The state statute clearly spells out what is permissible.

Wisconsin State Statute 346.94 (16) states: Radios or other electric sound amplification devices. (a) Except as provided in s. 347.38 (1), no person may operate or park, stop or leave standing a motor vehicle while using a radio or other electric sound amplification device emitting sound from the vehicle that is audible under normal conditions from a distance of 75 or more feet, unless the electric sound amplification device is being used to request assistance or warn against an unsafe condition. (b) This subsection does not apply to any of the following: 1. The operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm. 2. The operator of a vehicle of a public utility. In this paragraph, public utility means any corporation, company, individual or association which furnishes products or services to the public and which is regulated under ch. 195 or 196, including railroads, telecommunications or telegraph companies and any company furnishing or producing heat, light, power or water. 3. The operator of a vehicle that is being used for advertising purposes. 4. The operator of a vehicle that is being used in a community event or celebration, procession or assemblage. 5. The activation of a theft alarm signal device. 6. The operator of a motorcycle being operated outside of a business or residence district. 7. A local authority that has enacted an ordinance in conformity with s. 349.135.

Violation for the above statute carries a fine of \$187.90 for first offense and \$263.50 for second offense. Each offence carries zero demerit points.

Captain Trace Frost of the Dodge County Sheriff's Office reminds all motorists of the laws and asks that motorists be considerate to others near their vehicles and obey the law.